Application No.: 09/781,038

Docket No.: 29020/011A/US



considered as means for retaining the door in the open position. A variety of other specific structures in addition to the post-like structures depicted herein can also perform this function - such as flat plates, hooks and the like - which can be moved between release and doorblocking positions. Similarly, both actuating members 34 and 34' can be considered as means for actuating the latch members (or means for retaining) to the door-blocking position. Other structures could perform this function (motors, springs, pistons, etc.) by providing or transmitting the necessary motive force to move the latch member to the door-blocking position. In the same vein, sensing members 30 and 30' can be considered as means for sensing the position of the door, or more specifically, a means for sensing that the door is in the generally open position. A variety of structures could perform this function, including those disclosed according to both embodiments herein. Accordingly, the door latching system depicted herein can alternatively be represented as a combination of structural components (latch member, actuating member, sensing member), or as a combination of functional blocks (means for retaining, means for actuating, means for sensing). In addition, the door latching system can also be identified by the method steps by which the advantageous latching function is performed.

## **REMARKS**

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made."

Dated: April 19, 2002

Respectfully submitted,

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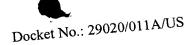
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Application No.: 09/781,038



## Version With Markings to Show Changes Made

Please insert the following paragraphs on Page 4 at line 15.

--Figure 14 is a front view of another exemplary door latching system in a release

Figure 15 is similar to Fig. 14 but with the door latching system in the door blocking position.

Please substitute the paragraph beginning on page 10 at line 9 with the following position.-paragraph:

-- While the embodiment of Figs. 14 and 15 is depicted as using electrical components, it is additionally intended to generically represent the functions performed by the assembled components according to either this embodiment, or that of Figs. 1-13, regardless of whether they are mechanical or electrical components. That is, latch members [34 and 34'] 24 and 24' can both be considered as means for retaining the door in the open position. A variety of other specific structures in addition to the post-like structures depicted herein can also perform this function - such as flat plates, hooks and the like - which can be moved between release and door-blocking positions. Similarly, both actuating members 34 and 34' can be considered as means for actuating the latch members (or means for retaining) to the door-blocking position. Other structures could perform this function (motors, springs, pistons, etc.) by providing or transmitting the necessary motive force to move the latch member to the door-blocking position. In the same vein, sensing members 30 and 30' can be considered as means for sensing the position of the door, or more specifically, a means for sensing that the door is in the generally open position. A variety of structures could perform this function, including those disclosed according to both embodiments herein. Accordingly, the door latching system depicted herein can alternatively be represented as a combination of structural components (latch member, actuating member, sensing member), or as a combination of functional blocks (means for retaining, means for actuating, means for sensing). In addition, the door latching system can also be identified by the method steps by which the advantageous latching function is performed.--